

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



⁶Listen closely to my prayer, LORD; pay close attention to the sound of my requests for mercy.

⁷Whenever I am in trouble, I cry out to you, because you will answer me.

⁸My Lord! There is no one like you among the gods! There is nothing that can compare to your works!

⁹All the nations that you've made will come and bow down before you, Lord; they will glorify your name,

¹⁰because you are awesome and a wonder-worker. You are God. Just you.

¹⁶Come back to me! Have mercy on me! Give your servant your strength; save this child of your servant!

¹⁷Show me a sign of your goodness so that those who hate me will see it and be put to shame—show a sign that you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

THE EPISTLE Romans 6:1b-11

^{1b}Should we continue sinning so grace will multiply? ²Absolutely not! All of us died to sin. How can we still live in it? ³Or don't you know that all who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore, we were buried together with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too can walk in newness of life. ⁵If we were united together in a death like his, we will also be united together in a resurrection like his. ⁶This is what we know: the person that we used to

be was crucified with him in order to get rid of the corpse that had been controlled by sin. That way we wouldn't be slaves to sin anymore, ⁷because a person who has died has been freed from sin's power. ⁸But if we died with Christ, we have faith that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ has been raised from the dead and he will never die again. Death no longer has power over him. ¹⁰He died to sin once and for all with his death, but he lives for God with his life. ¹¹In the same way, you also should consider yourselves dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 10:24-39

²⁴Disciples aren't greater than their teacher, and slaves aren't greater than their master. ²⁵It's enough for disciples to be like their teacher and slaves like their master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul, it's certain that

they will call the members of his household by even worse names.

²⁶Therefore, don't be afraid of those people because nothing is hidden that won't be revealed, and nothing secret that won't be brought out into the open. ²⁷What I say to you in the darkness, tell in

the light; and what you hear whispered, announce from the rooftops. ²⁸Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but can't kill the soul. Instead, be afraid of the one who can destroy both body and soul in hell. ²⁹Aren't two sparrows sold for a small coin? But not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father knowing about it already. ³⁰Even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹Don't be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

³²Therefore, everyone who acknowledges me before people, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven. ³³But everyone who denies me before people, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

³⁴Don't think that I've come to bring peace to the earth. I haven't come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵I've come to turn a man *against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.* ³⁶*People's enemies are members of their own households.*

³⁷Those who love father or mother more than me aren't worthy of me. Those who love son or daughter more than me aren't worthy of me. ³⁸Those who don't pick up their crosses and follow me aren't worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their lives will lose them, and those who lose their lives because of me will find them."